

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action mailed June 17, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Before the present Amendment, Claims 1-20 were pending, with Claims 1, 3, and 18 being in independent form. In the present Amendment, Claims 1-17 and 19-20 have been amended to comply with formal requirements expressly set forth in the June 17, 2004 Office Action. Claims 21-31 have been added. After entry of the present Amendment, Claims 1-31 will be pending, with Claims 1, 3, 14, 16, 17, 18, and 31 in independent form.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3, and 10-12 under 35 USC §102(e) as anticipated by *Murata* (EP App. No. 0 767 507), Claims 2, 4-6, and 14 under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over *Murata* in view of *Kyocera* (EP App. No. 0 883 328), and Claim 7 under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over *Murata* in view of *King* (US 2,232,179). These rejections are moot in light of the foregoing amendments.

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed independent Claim 18, as well as Claims 19-20 depending therefrom, and indicated that dependent Claims 8, 9, and 15-17 would be allowed if rewritten as independent claims (with all the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims).

In the present Amendment, independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of previously pending Claims 1 and 8, a combination the Examiner has indicated is allowable.

Dependent Claim 2 has been amended to depend from independent Claim 18.

Independent Claim 3 has been amended to recite limitations similar to Claim 18. Minor amendments have been made to Claims 4-7 which depend from Claim 3 to correspond with the amendments to Claim 3.

Dependent Claims 8-13 have been amended to depend from independent Claim 18.

Claim 14 has been amended to be in independent form and to recite the limitations of previously pending Claims 1, 14, and 15, a combination the Examiner has indicated is allowable.

Claim 15 has been amended to depend (indirectly) from independent Claim 18.

Claim 16 has been amended to be in independent form and to recite the limitations of previously pending Claims 1 and 16, a combination the Examiner has indicated is allowable.

Claim 17 has been amended to be in independent form and to recite the limitations of previously pending Claims 1 and 17, a combination the Examiner has indicated is allowable.

Claims 19-20 have been amended to have preambles consistent with the other claims depending from Claim 18.

Newly added Claims 21-24 depend from Claim 18, and recite the same limitations as Claims 4-7 (therefore, they do not contain new matter).

Newly added Claims 25-30 depend from Claim 3, and recite the same limitations as Claims 8-13 (therefore, they do not contain new matter).

Newly added independent Claim 31 recites the limitations of previously pending Claims 1 and 9.

Because amended independent Claim 1 recites a combination of limitations which the Examiner has indicated is allowable, it is believed that amended Claim 1 is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Because amended independent Claim 3 now recites limitations similar to independent Claim 18, which is in condition for allowance, it is believed that amended independent Claim 3 is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Because amended dependent Claims 4-7 and 25-30 depend from amended independent Claim 3, which is in condition for allowance, it is believed that amended Claims 4-7 and 25-30 are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Because amended dependent Claims 2, 8-13, 15, and 21-24 depend from independent Claim 18, which is in condition for allowance, it is believed that amended Claims 2, 8-13, 15, and 21-24 are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has already indicated that Claims 18-20 are in condition for allowance.

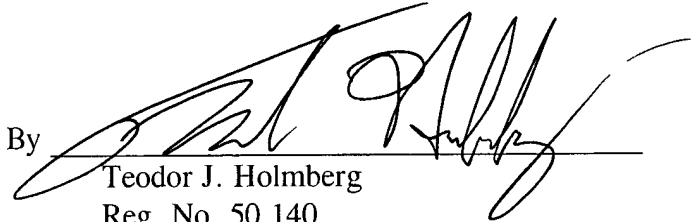
Because amended Claims 14, 16, and 17 (now in independent form), as well as newly added independent Claim 31, recite combinations of limitations which the Examiner has indicated are allowable, it is believed that amended Claims 14, 16, 17, and 31 are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Based on the foregoing amendments, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections, and allow all presently pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teodor J. Holmberg', is written over a horizontal line.

Teodor J. Holmberg

Reg. No. 50,140

551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210

New York, New York 10176

(212) 687-2770

Dated: September 16, 2004